

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CG-00

DOT-00 /047 W

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R 111353Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9704

INFO USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS LAGOS 05451

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, BEXP, NI

SUBJECT: CONGESTION IN NIGERIAN PORTS

REFS: (A) LAGOS 3571

(B) LAGOS 4442

(C) LAGOS 4464

1. DELAY PERIODS FOR NON-PRIORITY SHIPS WAITING TO BERTH IN
NIGERI

N PORTS, AS OF 10 JUNE 1975, WERE AS FOLLOWS:

APAPA IMPORT -- 110-120 DAYS:

APAPA EXPORT -- NO BERTH GUARANTEED:

LAGOS CUSTOMS QUAY -- 60-65 DAYS:

APAPA LIGHTER -- 20-25 DAYS:

PORT HARCOURT GENERAL CARGO -- 45-48 DAYS:

PORT HARCOURT CEMENT -- 36-38 DAYS:

WARRI -- 18-20 DAYS:

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KOKO -- 18-20 DAYS.

2. ACCORDING TO DETAILED AERIAL COUNT TAKEN JUNE 7, THERE WERE 150 RPT 150 SHIPS WAITING OUTSIDE LAGOS/APAPA HARBOR.

3. IN MEANTIME, MOT HAS ISSUED STATEMENT (JUNE 3) OUTLINING MEASURES TAKEN SO FAR BY CABINET COMMITTEE RECENTLY SET UP TO DECONGEST PORTS (REF A). THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS: (A) ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL CARGO HANDLING EQUIPMENT, TUGS, BARGES, PONTOONS, CRANES, ETC.: (B) ESTABLISHMENT OF TEMPORARY AREAS FOR DISCHARGE OF BARGES, AND ALLOCATION OF PERMANENT AREAS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL LIGHTER JETTIES: (C) PROVISION FOR BETTER AVAILABILITY OF RAILCARS IN APAPA PORT: (D) ARRANGEMENTS FOR BETTER SERVICING OF PORT PLANT AND EQUIPMENT: (E) PRIORITY BERTHING ARRANGEMENTS WITH MAJOR SHIPPIING CONFERENCES: (REF B AND PREVIOUS): (F) STREAMLINED CUSTOMS PROCEDURES: (G) CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY CARGO SHEDS AT IKEJA AIRPORT (REF C).

4. COMMENT: WITH MOST RECENT DETERIORATION OF SITUATION, MOT APPEARS NOW TO HAVE PLACED PARTIAL EMBARGO ON EXPORT TRAFFIC AS WELL (SEE PAR 1), AS MEANS OF MAKING MORE BERTHS AVAILABLE.
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